DEPARTMENT OF NATURAL RESOURCES AND CONSERVATION



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Initial Proposal Dorey Road

The Montana Department of Natural Resources and Conservation, Clearwater Unit is proposing to manage forest land on the following state owned parcels near Greenough, Montana.

Northeast 1/4 of Section 10 T13N R14W: Public Buildings Trust

The primary objectives of this proposal is to construct a short stretch of road (approximately 100 feet), and harvest a small portion of trees (approximately 2 acres) within the above mentioned section. The proposed harvest would contribute to the DNRC's sustained yield as mandated by State Statute 77-5-222, MCA. This project would be developed in compliance with the State Forest Land Management Plan, Montana Administrative Rules regarding Forest Management, and the DNRC Habitat Conservation Plan.

The road construction would be done as part of the Nemo Timber Sale (scoped in March of 2012). This sale would also remove several CMP's (corrugated metal pipes) within the nearby Little Fish Creek. This would be done to improve conditions in the stream with the goal of enhanced fish passage. This segment of road would allow us to change the direction of flow of traffic on an existing road, but would still allow access for fire protection and management of DNRC parcels. This would still make the changes to the creek channel possible. The two acres of harvest would allow the DNRC would blend the timber within this section to DNRC land to the north. Both parcels would be managed in a way to forward the parcel toward our desired future condition.

The proposed project area is bordered by the Ninemile Prairie, Cap Wallace Creek, and the Blackfoot River. This area is known to contain numerous wildlife species and fish bearing streams run through the project area. These streams would be examined to determine the potential effect of this sale. Grizzly Bears have been sighted in this general area. Protective measures to fulfill the Endangered Species Act and the DNRC Habitat Conservation Plan will be used in applicable areas. This area is also part of a Lynx Management Area and all stands will be looked at for potential effect of the proposed harvest and pre-commercial thinning.

The DNRC is in the scoping phase of this project, so all distances and acreages are preliminary estimates. In preparation for this project, specialists in forest management, wildlife biology, hydrology, soil science, and archeology will be consulted.

The Montana D.N.R.C. invites comments and suggestions concerning this proposal from all interested parties. Please respond by February 15, 2013 to:

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> or e-mail to: crnelson@mt.gov or: (406) 244-2386